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Dated: July 18, 2003

Signature:

Arthur M. Ellison
(Arthur M. Ellison)

Docket No.: 373722001822

(PATENT)

Client Ref.: A007 CIP3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Edwin FONTECHA and Mohammad Z. KHAN

Application No.: 09/904,163

Group Art Unit: 2874

Filed: July 11, 2001

Examiner: M. Connelly-Cushwa

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD TO
VERTICALLY ROUTE AND CONNECT
MULTIPLE OPTICAL FIBERSAMENDMENTBox Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FAX RECEIVED

JUL 18 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated May 20, 2003 (Paper No. 5), for which a response was due on August 20, 2003. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in light of the remarks presented herein is respectfully requested.

pa-793156

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